

Congratulations and warmest wishes for many more years of health and happiness.

# HONORING ARNELL HINKELL

SPEECH OF

## HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great community leader and activist, Ms. Arnell Hinkell. Arnell Hinkell, who is tackling the obesity epidemic among teens by supporting efforts in communities throughout California to encourage healthy lifestyles, has earned the nation's highest honor for community health leadership.

Hinkell is among the outstanding individuals from across the country selected this year to receive a Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program (CHLP) award.

Hinkell, executive director of the California Adolescent Nutrition and Fitness Program in Berkeley, CA., founded CANFit in 1993 with funds from the settlement of a lawsuit charging a breakfast cereal manufacturer with deceptive advertising. Her mission is to prevent obesity and chronic disease by helping people adopt healthy habits while young.

Drawing on her experience as a nutritionist, chef and organic farmer, Hinkell created a program that promotes healthy eating and activity to 10-to-14-year-olds from low-income, minority families—groups that historically have poor diets and suffer disproportionately from health problems such as heart disease and diabetes.

CANFit has provided grants to more than 60 youth organizations, scholarships to 90 low-income students studying in health fields, and fitness and nutrition training workshops to more than 500 people across California.

What makes CANFit unique is that its work goes far beyond the dissemination of information, said Hinkell's nominator.

Projects CANFit has supported include a Cambodian recipe book, nutrition and fitness curriculum for Korean-language schools, a fast food survival guidebook, an American Indian surf camp, and a hip hop video promoting healthy eating and physical activity.

From the beginning, Hinkell has emphasized community ownership of CANFit projects and insisted that youth be involved in planning and evaluating each one. She has grown CANFit from a small endowment that many thought would not survive into one of the most innovative and uncompromising nutrition education and community capacity-building programs in the country, said her nominator.

Hinkell is working with the Washington, D.C.-based policy group Forum for Youth Investment to make youth nutrition and fitness part of the national youth development agenda. She also coordinated development of a national model, adopted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for improving nutrition and physical activity for the adolescent poor.

Community by community, these leaders are showing us the face of America's new safety net, said Catherine Dunham, director of the Boston-based Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program. While larger, better endowed institutions must restrict

or close services under the weight of severe budget cuts, these leaders' programs—that provide health services where the need is great—remain strong because they are woven from and into the very fabric of the community.

The program awards \$1.2 million each year to individuals who have overcome significant challenges to expand access to health care and social services to underserved members of their communities. Hinkell and this year's other winners will be honored at a June 10 event in Washington, D.C. She will receive \$105,000 to enhance her program and \$15,000 as a personal award.

Hinkell was chosen from among 274 candidates for this year's honor. Since 1992, the program has given 110 awards to community leaders in 43 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. This year's award winners represent urban and rural areas of California, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Texas and Virginia. They were nominated by community leaders, health professionals, government officials and others inspired by their work in providing essential health services to their communities.

The Community Health Leadership Program is a program of the Princeton, N.J.-based Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest private philanthropic organization dedicated to improving health and health care for Americans.

# COMMENDATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ADDISON, ILLINOIS

## HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on March 27, my district office in Addison, Ill., was completely destroyed by a fire. Only a few cherished career mementos survived, and even then, they were severely damaged by heat, smoke and water. Thankfully, no one was injured by the early morning fire.

After assessing our loss, my district staff's thoughts immediately turned to the citizens of my district. How could we continue to serve them locally without a roof over our heads or even something as simple as pen and paper?

That's when the Village of Addison and particularly, Mayor Larry Hartwig, immediately stepped forward to offer their assistance free of charge. The Village opened the doors of its Village Hall, offering my staff a temporary place to call home. Office space was immediately made available, allowing us to resume district operations within a day. Had we had to search for other office space, the delay in resuming operations would have been much longer. The Village also graciously offered my staff everything it needed to continue serving my constituents. From desks and chairs, to phone lines, copiers and fax machines, we had it all.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Village of Addison for unselfishly offering aid and comfort to my district staff in our hour of need. Paraphrasing the great movie, "It's a Wonderful Life," I can only say that I am indeed the richest man in town with friends like these in Addison, Illinois.

# HONORING THOMAS C. BARILE

## HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously recognize Thomas C. Barile for his years of service to his country and community. Tom recently passed away on Thursday June 3rd.

Tom was known for his visionary work in education. He worked as an educator with the Madera Unified School District (MUSD) for 32 years. He served as a 6th grade teacher, resource teacher, vice-principal, and principal. Barile is credited with starting the MUSD science fair; writing, developing and implementing a standards based curriculum; and bringing technology to the classrooms.

Tom served in the U.S. Air Force for five years as a Staff Sergeant with an Honorable Discharge. He was a volunteer on the Fresno County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue Team where he served as commander of the Snowmobile Team and was a member of the Mountaineering Team. Tom was very active with the U.S. Forest Service and he was responsible for developing 250 groomed snowmobile trails. He also helped to build nine bridges, design trails, organize work crews, and have equipment donated to the Sierra National Forest. He was named chairman of the Sierra Nevada Access, Multiple-Use & Stewardship Coalition.

He is survived by his wife Maureen Barile; his sons Paul and David; and his three grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas C. Barile for his extraordinary service and years of dedication. I invite my colleagues to join me in posthumously honoring Tom Barile for his commitment to the students of Madera and for his work with the U.S. Forest Service.

# HONORING CHIEF MELVIN H. WEARING ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

## HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to join residents of New Haven who have gathered today to celebrate the long and distinguished career of Chief Melvin H. Wearing who is retiring after thirty-five years of dedicated service to the New Haven Police Department. As an advocate, a community leader, and a friend, Mel Wearing has dedicated his career to the betterment of this region.

Chief Wearing joined the Department as a patrolman in 1968, and through hard work and perseverance he worked his way up through the ranks. As a Sergeant, he was the commanding officer of the Narcotics Enforcement Unit and while a Lieutenant served as the Chief of Detectives for the Investigative Services Unit. He would go on to become the first African-American to serve as the Assistant Chief of Police and, in 1997, was sworn in as New Haven's first African-American Chief of